valla, Kottayam and Alleppey at a distance of 6, 12 and 20 miles respectively. It often happened that the parties had to attend three Courts on the same day, which was impracticable. Further, all the other public offices were being held in Changanacherri. The Member also pointed out that, some time ago, the constant necessity for establishing temporary Munsiffs' Courts at Kottayam and Thiruvalla attracted attention and the High Court invited the opinions of the Munsiffs of Thiruvalla, Kottayam and Alleppey and the Zillah Judges of the two latter places on the need for establishing a Munsiff's Court at Changanacherri. All of them gave their opinion in favor of a Court at Changanacherri. The High Court, being convinced of the necessity for establishing a Munsiff's Court at Changanacherri, also recommended the same to the Government, but he regretted to say that it had not been sanctioned. The Member therefore requested that a Munsiff's Court be established at Changanacherri.

*Dewan's reply.*—Noted.

**37. The need for the establishment of a Munsiff's Court at Alwaye or the transfer of the Perumbavur Munsiff's Court to Alwaye.**

*Mr. Kumaran Raman Karthavu* (Member, Alangad taluk) said that Alangad was one of the few taluks which did not possess a Munsiff's Court, though it was in no way less important. There was at present a Munsiff's Court at Perumbavur; but that place was at the north-eastern extremity of the Court's jurisdiction. Alwaye, on the other hand, was the centre. The people from the *pakuthies* had great convenience to travel to it by rail, road and boat. The Member therefore requested that a Munsiff's Court should be established at Alwaye, and, if that was not possible, that the Perumbavur Munsiff's Court be shifted to Alwaye.

*Dewan's reply.*—Noted.

**38. The need for a permanent resident Munsiff at Devikulam.**

*Mr. A. J. Wright* (Member, the Kanan Devan Planters' Association) said that, at present, the revenue, magisterial and civil powers were vested in the same officer, the Superintendent of Devikulam. The planters made large advances for labour and their interests had to be safe-guarded by civil procedure. Legal remedies of any form were invoked by them as seldom as possible; but it was necessary that, when resorted to in extreme cases, justice should be readily available. Under present arrangements, lack of continuity of Court's sittings precluded such action being taken, and in cases when defaulting kanganies or contractors had to be arrested before judgment, prompt action was not possible. The result was that it helped the defaulters in absconding to British territory, which was in some places within 20 miles, and thus evading service of processes. It was therefore necessary that there should be a resident Munsiff at Devikulam.

*Dewan.*—But will there be enough work for a Munsiff?

*Member.*—The number of cases was increasing. The average number of cases from 1085 to 1087 was 82. It had risen to 107 in 1088, showing an increase of 25 per cent.

*Dewan.*—That would not be adequate work at all. The average work of a Munsiff should be about 2,000 cases a year.

The Member said that the inconveniences to them were great. It would be some relief if another officer could be empowered to try civil cases, whenever the Superintendent was absent from head-quarters.

*Dewan's reply.*—The High Court will be asked for a report.

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